

NEWS

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from

Washington Office on Latin America
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For immediate release

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URUGUAY AND ARGENTINA HELD RESPONSABLE FOR KIDNAPPING AND REFOULEMENT SAYS THE OAS

The Washington Office on Latin America (WOLA), a church sponsored human rights organization that monitors U.S. hemispheric policy, released today Resolution 2155 of the OAS Inter-American Commission on Human Rights. The OAS resolution accuses the Argentine and Uruguayan governments of cooperation in repressing the political exile community by illegally returning exiles to their home countries.

The resolution specifically refers to the case of Uruguayan journalist Enrique Rodriguez Larreta who, according to the OAS Commission, was detained and tortured in Argentina and then sent back to Uruguay in an Argentine military plane. Rodriguez Larreta visited Washington a year ago, invited by the Washington Office on Latin America. At that time Mr. Rodriguez Larreta declared that he had been kidnapped in Argentina by a combined force of Uruguayan and Argentine military. He was then returned to Uruguay where he was held for several months and was again tortured brutally.

A spokesperson of the Washington Office on Latin America explained that the case of Rodriguez Larreta is not an isolated one. Hundreds of Uruguayans have been subjected to the same treatment in Argentina. Also, some Argentinians, such as Congressman Jaime Dri, were arrested in Uruguay and sent to Argentina. Very recently the International media has reported that Uruguayan exiles in Brazil have been kidnapped and taken against their will to Uruguay where they are now being held. Two Brazilian church leaders, Cardinals Arns and Lorscheider, held a press conference in December to say that they can document and prove that those now being held in Uruguay had in fact being detained a few days

earlier in Brazil.

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)

U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS

Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

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